

Application No. 10/769,348

Paper dated August 6, 2009

In Reply to Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed July 31, 2009

Docket No. 20045-65

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 6 of the specification is to be amended as indicated on pages 3 and 4 of this paper.

large diameter pipes of the type used in sub-sea installations for offshore oil and gas

wells. The pipe member 12 is a movable part and includes an end portion 16 containing a

centrally located annular ring section 18 bounded by annular ~~groves~~ grooves 20 and 22

terminating at annular ring sections 24 and 26 of reduced outside diameters as compared

5 with the outside diameter of the pipe 12. The pipe member 14 is a fixed part and includes

a connector portion 28 constructed with at least one, preferably four, threaded bores 30

arranged with the central axes 30A of each bore, ~~preferable~~ preferably lying in a common

plane that is perpendicular to the longitudinal and central axis of the pipe member 14.

When four threaded bores are provided, they are preferably arranged as opposed pairs

10 having the axes 30A of a pair of coaxially arranged. Threads on the external peripheral

edge of a disk shaped carrier 32 engage with the threads of each of the bores 30 for

mounting the carrier in a load transferring relation in the connector portion 28 of the pipe

member 14. The thickness of the disk shaped threaded carrier approximates the wall

thickness of the end portion 28 of the pipe member 14. The threaded carrier 32 is

15 provided with a plurality of drilled and tapped holes 32A spaced about a bolt circle

centered on the axis 30A to receive a jack bolt 38 having a sufficient length to present an

end portion extending into an abutting relation with an arcuate compression shoe 34. The

compression shoe includes an arcuate base 36 containing two parallel and side-by-side

compression ribs 39 spaced apart by a central recess 40 to establish interlocking

20 engagement with the annular support ring section 18 and the annular ~~groves~~ grooves 20

and 22, as shown in Figure 1. This arcuate inter fitting relationship of the compression

shoe pressed against the support ring section 18 by the pushing force generated by the

jack bolts 38 establishes a mechanical interconnection between the large diameter pipes

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of great and long lasting integrity. Positioning of the compression shoe in compression

25 generator 10 before generating the pushing forces is limited to